

ORC 3-5-50

9 May 1950

Note on Proposed ORE on Berlin Youth Rally:

Representatives of the IAC agencies met with representatives of D/WE and D/EE this morning at 1030 to discuss a proposed ORE on the Berlin Youth Rally. The two subjects of discussion were:

(1) The text of the D/WE draft presented at the meeting;

(2) The desirability of putting out an ORE, and the form which it should take.

On point (1) several specific suggestions for improvement (including down-grading to Secret) were made. The general criticism was raised as to the narrowness of its scope, and it was suggested that if issued, it should be restricted in its title to security aspects. This feeling was very generally expressed by the Agencies. It was said, particularly by Air, that there was nothing here which had not been covered previously, and indeed, which did not represent what all the agencies were agreed upon. Others concurred.

On point (2) it was agreed that there is no place for another tactical estimate of the situation; that the only ORE justified was one which viewed the rally situation in terms of its whole context and on a strategic level in terms of its likely consequences; that with this scope, an ORE was justified, to appear as early as possible; that the expansion of the D/WE draft which would be required would demand substantial additions in political and economic matters (as against narrow security matters) and in the matter of Soviet plans and intentions.

It was concluded that an effort would be made to produce an ORE

which would be focussed on the Berlin rally situation, but which would assess its consequences and significance in the broad context, <sup>end of the</sup> by the <sup>D/EE</sup> third week in May; that to do this, ~~D/WE~~ would ~~be~~ make a contribution which would put the problem into the context of Soviet intentions; that OIR would be asked (if able) to produce as soon as possible next week substantial contributions on political and economic aspects.

It was indicated ~~that~~ <sup>by</sup> Army and Navy, <sup>what</sup> a ~~draft~~ draft on economic and political matters agreed upon by ORE and OIR would meet with little objection in G-2 and ONI; Air was more reserved, but indicated that the views expressed at the meeting today on these matters were generally in accord with their own.

The willingness and ability of OIR to produce the desired contribution (presumably based upon a continuing study of the matter being made by OIR for Sec State) must determine the possibility of producing the ORE. In the event that delays developed which would not permit the completion of this study by 22 ~~March~~ May, D/WE was anxious to have its draft, with modifications, turned out instead. I did not commit us on it, and there was general opposition to this, altho several possibilities were examined. It was agreed that any alternative (another IM, was suggested) was to be considered as a very poor second choice, and that every effort should be made to produce the desired ORE in short order.

RJS  
5 May 50